(viii) Rural Industrialisation.

903. The Rural Industrialisation Scheme which was in operation in the Districts of Bangalore, Kolar and Mandya in the previous years, was extended to the entire State with a budget provision of Rs. 16 lakhs. The Special Officer, Rural Industrialisation Scheme was designated as " Director, Rural Industrialisations ". The Deputy Commissioners of the respective districts were put in immediate charge of the Scheme in their Districts.

904. The Director was entrusted with the work connected with the following items also in addition to these Departments: (1) Textiles, (2) Cottage Industries and (3) Khadi and Village Industries.

905. There were 134 Group Committees-*cum*-Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies in the three districts of Bangalore, Kolar and Mandya. Similar committees numbering 266 were formed in the new districts also, and those committees were promoted as Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies for their respective unit areas. The number of such Group Committees-*cum*-Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies was raised from 134 to 400 during the year. These Societies enrolled 57,212 members and brought those families under the co-operative fold, collecting a share amount of Rs. 11,70,232 (Rs. 2,26,704).

906. A sum of Rs. 10,58,802 was paid as subvention by Government to those societies. Out of the subvention, Rs. 82,000 was spent towards, honorarium of Group Inspectors, Office rent, contingency and other miscellaneous expenditure. All the Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies of new Districts held their first general body meetings and elected the office bearers and Directors for the year.

907. Lectures and speeches by the local industrialists and influential people were arranged and people were advised to avail of the facilities provided by Government.

908. The Rural Industrial Financing Bank, Ltd., organised under the scheme for providing credit facilities to the Industrialists in need of financial aid to start or expand their industries continued to work during the year with jurisdiction extending over Bangalore, Kolar and

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Mandya Districts. The jurisdiction was extended throughout the State during the year, and all the 400 Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies were affiliated to that Bank and the total capital was Rs. 32 lakhs as against Rs. 12 lakhs in the previous year.

909. Loans amounting to Rs. 4,11,180 were issued in 519 cases during the year, as against Rs. 2,99,565 granted in the previous year. The total amount of loans granted from the Rural Industrial Financing Bank to the Rural Industrialists, artisans and craftsmen under Rural Industrialisation Scheme from the commencement to end of March 1955 was Rs. 7,20,745 in 877 cases for several industries.

910. The budget provision of Rs. 16·00 lakhs originally sanctioned was revised to Rs. 13·45 lakhs and a sum of Rs. 13·05 lakhs was spent during the year.

911. The Committee constituted for operating the Rural Industrialisation Scheme in the previous years was reconstituted as "Central Board."